GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:227
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Sanskrit Language
Misra Shri Pinaki

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of students opting Sanskrit language have reduced considerably in the last ten years;
(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of Sanskrit teachers has also reduced considerably in the last decade due to lack of job opportunities; and
(c) if so, whether the Government is considering to revive the education of Sanskrit language in schools and colleges and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)
(a): The Ministry of Human Resource Development doesn't maintain record of number of students opting Sanskrit Language in Schools and Colleges. Institutes engaged in imparting knowledge of Sanskrit Language such as Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi and colleges under University Grant Commission have reported that the enrolment of students is increasing year by year. However, the information received from Central Board of Secondary Education states that enrolment of students in Class X has increased whereas in Class XII it is reducing marginally over the last three years.
(b): The Ministry of Human Resource Development doesn't maintain record of number of teachers engaged in Sanskrit Teaching in Schools and Colleges. However, as per information available there is no reduction in the posts of Sanskrit Teachers. There are ample job opportunities available in Government Sector as well as in Private Institutions for the students learning Sanskrit Language.

(c): The Ministry of Human Resource Development commissioned a study on the development of Sanskrit in various educational institutions under the Chairmanship of Shri N. Gopalaswami, former Chief Election Commissioner. The report interalia suggested that a Sanskrit Cell may be created, to facilitate study of Science and Technology in Sanskrit literature and inter disciplinary study of various modern subjects and its corresponding subjects in Sanskrit literature, by all institutions from school education to higher education and all top level institutions like Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Technology (NITs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIITs), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Central Universities and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) approved technical colleges. The report of the Committee is available at http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Report-CVRM.pdf. The report has been circulated to all concerned institutions for implementing the recommendations of the committee which are implementable within the existing policy framework.
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